

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-2239

Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church

13916 Jarrettsville Pike

Phoenix, Baltimore County

1903

Private

The Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church, constructed in 1903 in the village of Sunny Brook, is representative of the many Gothic Revival style wood frame churches constructed throughout Baltimore County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. As late as 1850, the expansive farms of James Sterett comprised the area that would become Sunny Brook. Between 1850 and 1877, the small village took shape along Old York Road. In 1856, a Methodist Episcopal congregation formed, first meeting in a log schoolhouse at the intersection of Blemheim Road and Jarrettsville Pike. Later, they met at the intersection of Merryman's Mill Road and Sunnybrook Road. By 1877, several improved and unimproved roads had been established throughout the general area, and many buildings had been constructed throughout the village. These structures included a tavern, two schools, the Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church and St. Philip's Catholic Church. The first Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church was constructed on a lot donated to the congregation by Thomas Anderson. By 1881, Sunny Brook had a population of 150. Sunny Brook continued to grow, albeit at a slower pace, through the early 20th century. It was soon after the turn-of-the-20th century that the original Fairview church was replaced by the extant building.

This Gothic Revival style church, set back from the street, fronts east with a cemetery to the north. It has a parged concrete foundation supporting a wood frame structure with vinyl siding. Rising from the front gable roof with asphalt shingles is a rebuilt brick chimney on the interior gable end. The three-bay façade features three pointed-arch 5/4 windows and one round stained glass window. All of the windows have vinyl surrounds and sills. A distinguishing feature of the church is its square bell tower. Projecting from the south elevation, the tapered tower has a sheet metal-clad pyramidal roof with flared eaves. The upper portion of the tower is open and framed by wood posts with scroll-sawn corner brackets. The gabled main entry, located in the tower, has a paneled double-leaf door with a Tudor-arch transom that is ornamented with wood tracery. On the west there is a large addition connected to the original church by a gabled hyphen. Clad in metal siding, the two-story circa 1990 addition sits on a poured concrete foundation with a half-monitor roof. Located to the north of the church is a cemetery with approximately seven rows of about fifty headstones. The oldest markers dating to the 1880s (even 1841) are marble while the newer stones dating to 2000 are granite. To the west of the church is a circa 1990 shed that has a poured concrete foundation supporting a wood frame structure of pressed vertical board.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2239

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church (preferred)
other Fairview United Methodist Church

2. Location

street and number 13916 Jarrettsville Pike not for publication
city, town Phoenix vicinity
county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Fairview United Methodist Church
street and number 13916 Jarrettsville Pike telephone Not Available
city, town Phoenix state MD zip code 21131

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 5548 folio 133
city, town Towson tax map 43 tax parcel 189 tax ID number 1700003719

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2239

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed in 1903, this Gothic Revival style church, set back from the street, fronts east with a cemetery to the north. It has a parged concrete foundation supporting a wood frame structure with vinyl siding. Rising from the front gable roof with asphalt shingles is a rebuilt brick chimney on the interior gable end. The three-bay façade features three pointed-arch 5/4 windows and one round stained glass window. All of the windows have vinyl surrounds and sills. A distinguishing feature of the church is its square bell tower. Projecting from the south elevation, the tapered tower has a sheet metal-clad pyramidal roof with flared eaves. The upper portion of the tower is open and framed by wood posts with scroll-sawn corner brackets. The gabled main entry, located in the tower, has a paneled double-leaf door with a Tudor-arch transom that is ornamented with wood tracery. On the west there is a large addition connected to the original church by a gabled hyphen. Clad in metal siding, the two-story circa 1990 addition sits on a poured concrete foundation with a half-monitor roof.

Located to the north of the church is a cemetery with approximately seven rows of about fifty headstones. The oldest markers dating to the 1880s (even 1841) are marble while the newer stones dating to 2000 are granite. Set on a square lot, the cemetery is enclosed on three sides with a concrete post and metal rail fence. It is bounded on the north by Constantine Drive.

To the west of the church is a circa 1990 shed that has a poured concrete foundation supporting a wood frame structure of pressed vertical board. The three-bay shed has a side gable roof with asphalt shingles and a two-leaf door.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2239

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates	1903-present	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1903, 1990 ca.		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church, constructed in 1903 in the village of Sunny Brook, is representative of the many Gothic Revival style wood frame churches constructed throughout Baltimore County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. As late as 1850, the expansive farms of James Sterett comprised the area that would become Sunny Brook.¹ Between 1850 and 1877, the small village took shape along Old York Road. In 1856, a Methodist Episcopal congregation formed, first meeting in a log schoolhouse at the intersection of Blemheim Road and Jarrettsville Pike. Later, they met at the intersection of Merryman's Mill Road and Sunnybrook Road.² By 1877, several improved and unimproved roads had been established throughout the general area, and many buildings had been constructed throughout the village. These structures included a tavern, two schools, the Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church and St. Philip's Catholic Church.³ The first Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church was constructed on a lot donated to the congregation by Thomas Anderson. By 1881, Sunny Brook had a population of 150.⁴ Sunny Brook continued to grow, albeit at a slower pace, through the early 20th century.⁵ It was soon after the turn-of-the-20th century that the original Fairview church was replaced by the extant building.

The Gothic Revival style was popular in the mid- to late 19th century for residential and religious buildings. As the style was supplanted by the popular Queen Anne style for domestic construction, the Gothic Revival style continued to predominate in the design of churches. High-style Gothic Revival churches make use of steeply pitched roofs, ornate stone or wood tracery in pointed-arched windows, masonry polychroming, and trefoil and quatrefoil motifs. In rural country churches, the style is modestly interpreted through the use of pointed-arched windows and steeply pitched roofs.

¹ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

² Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

³ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1877).

⁴ J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), p. 909.

⁵ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2239

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Phoenix

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction in 1903, the Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church has been associated with the 1.09 acres of land known as tax parcel 189 of map 43 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

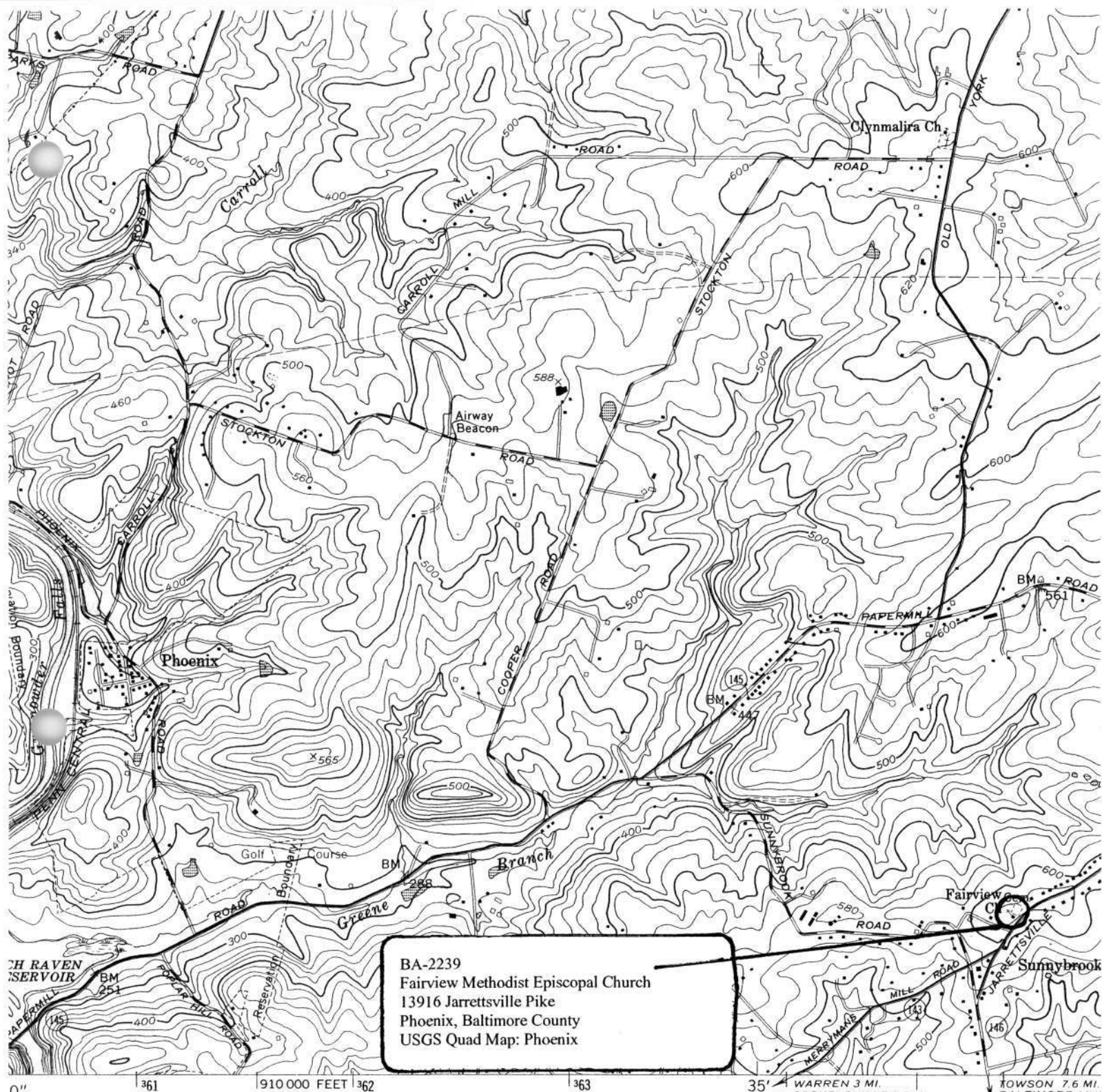
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 21, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



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 ted and published by the Geological Survey

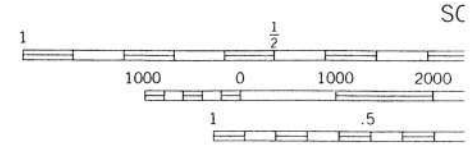
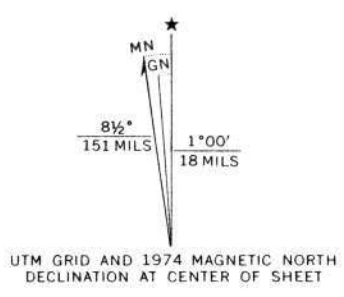
ontrol by USGS, USC&GS, and USSCS

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 n 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
 ure revised by the Geological Survey 1957

conic projection. 1927 North American datum
 100-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
 0-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 18, shown in blue

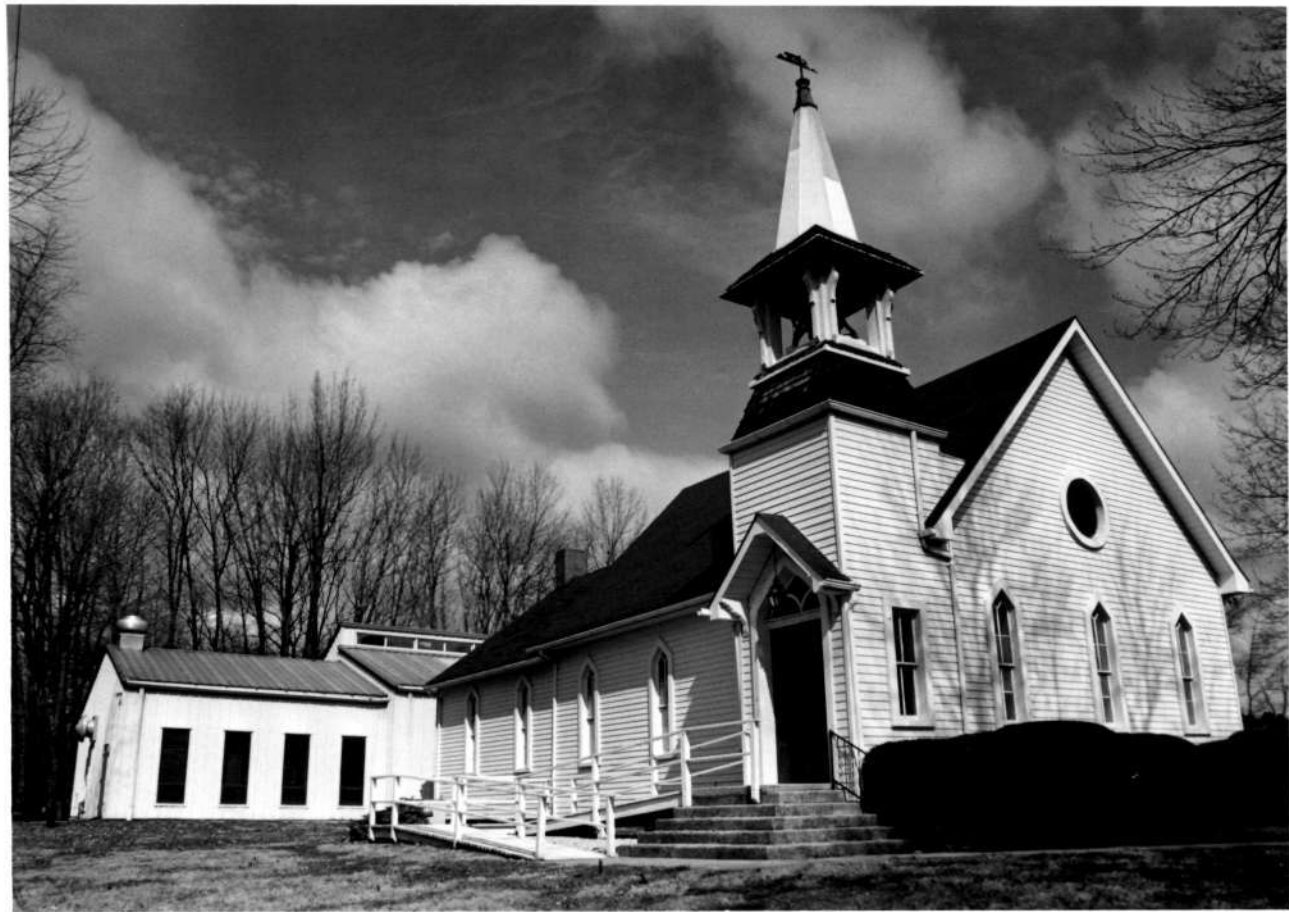
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sions shown in purple compiled by the Geological
 ey from aerial photographs taken 1974. This
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CONTOUR
 NATIONAL GEODE

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC



BA-2239
15916 JARRETSVILLE PIKE
PHOENIX
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACELIF

3/2001
MD-SHPD
SE CORNER



BA-2239

13716 JARRETTSVILLE PIKE

PHOENIX

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILER

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MD-5H20

NE CORNER

2 of 3



BA-2239

13916 JARRETSVILLE PILE
PHOENIX

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILORIES

3/2001

MD-SHPD

S ELEVATION

3 of 3

0A-2239

FAIRVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 1903 - 13916 Jarrettsville Pike, Sunnybrook vicinity. The first church on this site was dedicated in May 1867 after the congregation met at two different school houses, starting in 1856. The first location was a log school at Blemheim Road and Jarrettsville Pike, the second at a new school at Merrymans Mill Road and Sunnybrook Road. The church lot, part of "Wellington," was donated by Thomas Anderson. This was originally a branch of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, possible the northern-most body of this Southern-oriented denomination. The present building dates from 1903, is of frame, and now is covered with wrinkle-finished aluminum siding. The foundation is poured concrete. There is a corner entrance tower with an open belfry. Gable roofed; lancet windows. Modern educational building at rear. Small cemetery to the NE.